THE MINSTER - *OF FI*NANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that they had appointed an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri D.R. Mehta, the they Deputy Governor, RBI to review the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and to recommend suitable measures for strengthening it with a view to make it more effective for alleviation of Poverty. Pursuant to the interim report of the Committee, the scheme has been modified to provide a substantially higher finance package to groups of persons. The subsidy is now back-ended and the celling on the programme infastructure has been enhanced.

Demand of News-Casters Association to press for pay hike etc.

365. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR : SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE : SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian News-Casters Association has been agitating,to press their demands for pay-hikt and better working conditions;

(b) if so, what are their precise demands; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

To erect and develop infrastructure for Civil Aviation in Gujarat

366. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) what target has' been fixed to erect and develop infrastructure for Civil Aviation in Gujarat during VIIIth Five Year Plan;

(b) what amount has been allocated for this purpose; and

(c) what are the year-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c) A statement in attached.

Statement

Development of Civil Aviation Infrastructure in. Gujarat during V1II Five Year Plan

STATION/SCHEMES	EST. COST	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE (PROVISIONAL)				BE
		92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97
					(RS. IN	LAKHS)
AHMEDABAD	800	306.75	2046.50	127.50		100
Extn. of runwy upto 11500 ft. Various	2972.00					362.00
Aeronautical Communication equipments						
VADODARA						
Constn. of new terminal bldg. Extn.	1486.00	150.00	358.00	328.00	271.57	350.00
of new apron & additional taxitrack	245.75				IIS.45	96. 00
cor.stn. of Tech Block &. control tower Compound wall Various	87.06 177.00		35.34	59.66	80.22	68.00
Aeronautical Communication equipments	295.00				85.00	210.00

	STATION/SCHEMES	EST. COST	ACTUL- EXPENDITURE (PROVISIONAL) 92 -93	93-94	94-95	95-96	BE 96-97
3	BHAVNAGER						
	Extension of runway various Aeronautical Communication equipments	300 00 120.00				120.00	loo.00
4	BHUJ						
	Dev. of passenger air terminal complex Various Aeronautical Communication equipments	500.00 210.00	1.00				100..0 0 210.00
5.	PORBANDER						
6.	Constn. of new Term. Bldg & apron taxitrack Constn. of residential quarters	300.00 50.00		1.78			200.00 50.00
	RA.IKOT						
	Constn. of operational wall Resurfacing of runway, app road & Car Park Various Aeronautical Communication equipments	80.00 150.00 450 00				405.00	50.00 200.00
7	JAMNAGAR						
	Various Aeronautical Communication equipments	210 00					210.00
		8367.81	457.75	2441.62		1050.24	2306.00

Steps taken to Control Expenditure Fiscal Deficit and Inflation

367. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a number of steps to control the Govern ment expenditure, to curtail the fiscal deficit and to check the inflation;

(b) whether Government have re viewed the implementation of those measures;

(c) if so, what were the expectations of Government in these matters, achieve ment so far; and

(d) whether the target for 1996-97 fi nancial year would be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) Government recognises that expenditure control is an important element in containing inflation and fiscal deficit which has been targetted at 5% of GDP in the current financial year. Some of the principal steps already under operation to ensure fiscal prudence and austerity in expenditure management are: careful scrutiny of relevance of on-going plan and non-plan schemes, strict adherence to prescribed budgetary ceilings, monthly monitoring of revenue and expenditure cash flows to ensure their close convergence, enhancing payment of dividend on equity by profit making public sector enterprises and joint venture companies, control over wasteful and ostentatious